SOME CONSIDERATIONS Relating to the Trade to Guiny.

THE *Royal Company*, as they call themſelves, are a great Injury to the Nation in divers Reſpects.

I. They hinder the vent of the Woollen Manufacture, trading themſelves inconſiderably, nor ſuffering others, whereby not a Tenth part of the Product of *England* is Exported for *Guiny*, as might be, if the Trade were open, or managed by a Regulated Company.

II. They occaſion the Decay of Navigation; Ten times the Number of Seamen and Ships might be imployed in that Trade, were it open, or regulated as aforeſaid.

III. They Advance the Intereſt and Trade of other Nations; for whilſt we forbear to ſupply that Coaſt with Goods, other Nations fill it, and beat us out of our Trade with their Manufactures, when our own would at the ſame time vend better amongſt the Natives, if we would ſupply the Market.

IV. They are dangerous for the reſt of their Majeſties Subjects to deal with; for when a Company has a mind (after they have made many Dividends) they may break, thô every Individual Perſon be very rich, there is no Remedy for the Creditors.

V. They ſet what Price they pleaſe upon the Manufacture of *England*, ſo lower the Price of Wool, ruin the Workers and Dealers in the Woollen Manufacture, becauſe there is but one Buyer.

VI. They ſet what Price they pleaſe on Ships they hire, for they have none of their own, and ſo Diſcourage the Building of Ships, as well as Maſters and Seamen.

VII. They conſequently hinder their Majeſties Cuſtoms.

VIII. They have heretofore (and therefore may be expected from them again) been the great Invaders of Property, and contrary to Law and Juſtice, have taken from their Fellow Subjects their Ships and Goods, and granted Commiſſions ſo to do; and in all Differences with thoſe they deal with, have been Judges in their own Caſes.

IX. They

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XI. They hinder all manner of Discoveries of Places; and that many Ingenious Men would go upon, were it not that this Company will let none Profit thereby but themselves.

X. They ruin their Majesties Plantations;

1. By their not Supplying them with the quantity of Negroes necessary.
2. By taking Excessive Rates for those they sell.
3. By furnishing them with Negroes unfit.
4. By setting what Price they please on the Commodities the Planters produce, they having the greatest Command of the Market, there being but one Buyer for them all, and no Nation else suffered to Trade with them; nor they allowed to send their Product any where but to *England*.

Now all this as well hinders the Trade for *England*, as it does Injury to the Plantations of *England*.

All that this Company pretends to about Charges of Presents to the Natives of *Guiny*, maintaining of Factories on the Coast, Building and Maintaining of Fortifications, and Officers, and Souldiers, can better be performed by a Company regulated, as is already proposed, than by this.

But at *Mingo*, *Alampo*, *Pittaw*, the two *Papaws*, *Arda*, *Quida*, Old and New *Callabar*, and *Angola*, which are the chief Places of Trade for Negroes, the Company have no Forts nor Castles, nor are at any charge, and therefore most unreasonable to exact from their Fellow-Subjects 40 *per Cent.* for Trading thither, as they have done, and do.

This Company takes the same Course now, as is proposed the regulated Company should do, but then its to whom they please, and at such excessive Rates, that none can suppose it is for maintaining their Fortifications, but in plain terms a perfect Tax and Imposition upon the Subjects, that none shall go about their lawful Occasions on the Coast of *Guiny*, except they will pay them 20. 25. and so to 40. *per Cent.* a Tax greater than ever any King laid upon his own Subjects. So then this Company can have no pretence to a Patent, for they neither are first Discoverers, nor the prime Traders to this Coast, and therefore have no Reason to expect the Confirmation of their Patent by an Act of Parliament, to the Destruction of the rest of their Majesties Subjects.

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